

Formation and Function of Theme-based Workgroup

- What is the scope of the assessment (e.g., streams vs. wadeable streams, beaches vs. ocean beaches)?
 - Short-term focus
 - Longer-term focus
- What are the questions you are trying to answer?
- What is your target audience?
 - Public
 - Legislature
 - Agency decision makers
 - Water quality scientists
 - Agency staff performing assessments, writing permits, taking enforcement, etc.
 - Non-governmental organizations (e.g., Heal the Bay, Waterkeepers, SCCWRP, SFEI, citizen monitoring groups)
 - Regulated community
- Needs Identification
 - What data sets and assessment tools are needed?
 - Who are the key players (i.e., sources of data and assessment tools)?
 - What other workgroups share overlapping subject matter?
 - Establish relationships for sharing and cooperation
- Problems Assessment:
 - What are potential barriers to success?
 - Institutional (e.g., data ownership, data access)
 - Technical (e.g., data management, web capabilities, GIS platform differences)
 - Funding / Resources
 - Are there critical players who are unable or unwilling to participate?